Beaver County Socioeconomic Workshop - 02/07/2011

Identified Areas of Public Interest

Forestry and Woodland Products:

- Cedar posts, pine nuts, Christmas trees, and fuelwood are valuable resources that should be maintained and made more available.
- Access for these uses should be considered during open, limited and closed route designations. Most of these resources need to be accessed by ATVs.
- Consider a variety of focused areas where these activities are allowed.
- Must be close enough to be economically feasible for users. Measure economic consequences of these uses throughout the local economy.
- Biomass should be made available.

Lands and Realty:

- Consider corridors for new and existing sources of energy.
- A streamlined process to designate corridors is needed.
- Managing lands with wilderness character should consider utilities, easements and all uses. These uses should be considered before wilderness character designation.
- Lands made available for acquisition or disposal need to be coordinated with the County.
- To speed up the disposal process, these lands should be included in the RMP process.
- Appraisals need to be competitively priced.

Wilderness Character:

- Future necessary developments, and related access, need to be considered regardless of wilderness character designation.
- The County will be amended their County Plan to state they do not approve of new Wild Lands designations.

Wild Horses:

- Management of wild horses needs to be kept at appropriate levels.
- Livestock should be prioritized over wild horses.
- Wild horse decision should be made locally.
- The number of horses is putting undue pressure on valuable local uses of public land, including water sources.

Livestock Grazing:

- Need to improve dispersal of water for livestock grazing.
- Need to identify opportunities for range improvements.
- Need to simplify the process for improvements.
- All available methods (chemicals, chains, saws, etc.) should be allowed for rangeland treatment and improvement in sagebrush and PJ areas. These help livestock and improves wildlife habitat.

Fire:

- Fire use should continue to be used to support Allotment Management Plans.
- Let fires burn. They are beneficial to the landscape.

Noxious Weeds:

• Noxious weed control needs to be improved. This is a serious problem with consequences to forage conditions.

Renewable Energy:

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- Land with potential for renewable energy should not be restricted in any form, as long as it fits with multiple use of the land.
- Renewable energy needs to be balanced with other uses.
- ROWs across BLM to private land for renewable energy development should be considered.

Recreation:

- Need to address recreation conflicts and grazing.
- Too many gates are being left open; ATV cattle guards are needed.
- Recreation uses for locals needs to be considered.

Minerals:

- Mineral uses generate a lot of income; all areas should be open for mineral exploration and development.
- Abandoned mines should be a safety priority.

Travel and Transportation:

- No areas should be closed to cross-country travel.
- The County will be amended their County Plan to state they do not approve of travel restrictions.
- Consider only seasonal restrictions on existing routes.